

# Candidate for the Human Rights Committee



## Sarah H. Cleveland

Louis Henkin Professor of Human and Constitutional Rights and  
Co-Director of the Human Rights Institute, Columbia Law School

Member, European Commission for Democracy through Law (Venice Commission)

Co-Coordinating Reporter, *Restatement (Fourth) of the  
Foreign Relations Law of the United States*, American Law Institute

Counselor on International Law to the Legal Adviser, U.S. Department of State  
(2009–11)

العهد الدولي الخاص ▪ Pacte International relatif aux Droits Civils et Politiques  
治权利国际公约 ▪ Internationaler Pakt über bürgerliche und politische Rechte  
on Civil and Political Rights ▪ العهد الدولي الخاص بالحقوق المدنية و السياسية  
пакт о гражданских и политических правах ▪ 公民权利和政治权利国际公约  
de Derechos Civiles y Políticos ▪ International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

# Sarah H. Cleveland

---

**Sarah H. Cleveland** is a preeminent scholar and practitioner of international and comparative human rights law, who has long been involved in implementing human rights obligations in practice around the world, both inside and outside of government. She also brings expertise in the related fields of international law, international humanitarian law, national security law, and the constitutional law of U.S. foreign relations.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### CURRENT POSITIONS

Louis Henkin Professor of Human and Constitutional Rights, and  
Co-Director, Human Rights Institute, Columbia Law School (since 2007),  
overseeing programs on human rights in the United States, the Inter-American human rights system, human rights and counterterrorism, and rule of law in Myanmar.

Member, European Commission for Democracy through Law  
(Venice Commission); previously U.S. Observer Member (2010–13)

Co-Coordinating Reporter, *Restatement (Fourth) of the Foreign Relations Law of the United States*, American Law Institute (since 2012)

Co-Director, Project on Harmonizing Standards for Armed Conflict (since 2012)

Executive Council Member, American Society of International Law (since 2014)

### SELECTED RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

International Bar Association Human Rights Institute, Council Member (since 2013)

U.S.-China Legal Experts Dialogue, public member of U.S. delegation (2012, 2013)

External Legal Advisory Group to the Kingdom of Bahrain on implementation of  
Bahrain Independent Commission of Inquiry (BICI) recommendations (2012)

Counselor on International Law to the Legal Adviser, Office of the Legal Adviser,  
U.S. Department of State (2009–11)

Expert, ABA Afghanistan Transitional Labor Law Project Working Group (2003)

Law clerk to Associate Justice Harry A. Blackmun, U.S. Supreme Court (1993–94)

Research Mission on Human Rights and Democratization in Namibia (1990)

Prior faculty positions: Harvard Law School (2006–07), Oxford University (2006, 2007),  
Michigan Law School (2004), and the University of Texas School of Law (1997–07)

---

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

HUMAN RIGHTS (with Louis Henkin, Gerald Neuman, et al.) (2d ed. 2009) and  
SUPPLEMENT (2013)

*Human Rights Derogation, Convergence, and the Law of War and Peace* (forthcoming 2014)

*Defining and Punishing Offenses Against Treaties* (with William Dodge) (forthcoming 2014)

*The Kiobel Presumption and Extraterritoriality*, 52 COLUM. J. TRANSNAT'L L. 8 (2013)

*Embedded International Law and the Constitution Abroad*, 110 COLUM. L. REV. 101 (2010)

*Our International Constitution*, 31 YALE J. INT'L L. 1 (Winter 2006)

*Why International Labor Standards?*, in INTERNATIONAL LABOR STANDARDS:  
GLOBALIZATION, TRADE, AND PUBLIC POLICY (2003)

*Human Rights Sanctions and International Trade: A Theory of Compatibility*,  
5 J. INT'L ECON. L. 133 (2002)

*Norm Internalization and U.S. Economic Sanctions*, 26 YALE J. INT'L L. 1 (2001)

## SELECTED HUMAN RIGHTS AMICUS LITIGATION

*Bond v. United States* (S.Ct. 2013) (U.S. constitutional power to implement treaties)

*Hollingsworth v. Perry* (S.Ct. 2013) (comparative approaches to same-sex marriage)

*Boumediene v. Bush* (S.Ct. 2008) (habeas corpus rights of Guantánamo detainees)

*Benitez v. Mata* (S.Ct. 2004) (due process rights of indefinitely detained aliens)

*Brief Amicus Curiae of Immigration and Labor Rights Organization*, Advisory Opinion OC-18,  
Inter-Amer. Ct. H. Rts. (2003) (human rights of migrant workers)

*Sale v. Haitian Centers Council* (S.Ct. 1993) (nonrefoulement of aliens on the high seas)

## LEGISLATIVE TESTIMONY

Provided written evidence to the Joint Committee on Human Rights, UK Parliament (2011);  
expert testimony to the U.S. Congress on U.S. terrorism detention policy (2009),  
the use of international law in U.S. constitutional interpretation (2004), and the rights  
of Haitian refugees (1992)

## EDUCATION

Yale Law School, J.D., 1992

Oxford University, M.St., 1989, British Imperial & Commonwealth History  
(Rhodes Scholar)

Brown University, A.B. (Honors), 1987, Law & Mental Health (Independent)

# CANDIDATE FOR THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE

## Sarah H. Cleveland

Louis Henkin Professor of Human and Constitutional Rights and  
Co-Director of the Human Rights Institute at Columbia Law School

“The United States is pleased to present Professor Cleveland as our candidate for the UN Human Rights Committee. Professor Cleveland has proven her dedication to protecting human rights not only through her service in the U.S. government, but also through her service as an Expert on the ABA Afghanistan Transitional Project Labor Law Working Group, as an external legal advisor on BICI human rights implementation for the Kingdom of Bahrain, and as a member of the Venice Commission. Her experience, coupled with her substantive expertise as a leading scholar in international and comparative human rights, will support the Committee’s ability to address the complex human rights challenges that states face today.”

—Mary McLeod, Principal Deputy Legal Adviser, U.S. Department of State

“Sarah has wide knowledge and broad experience in the field, dedication to the promotion of human rights, superb legal skills, and practical understanding of how governments work. She also has talent at being as tactful or blunt as the occasion requires. She would be an extremely valuable member for the Human Rights Committee.”

—Gerald L. Neuman, current Human Rights Committee member

---

*“From my early work on behalf of Caribbean sugar cane workers to my current work on counterterrorism and human rights, I have devoted my career as a scholar and practitioner to securing compliance with human rights obligations through national law. Through the Venice Commission, Columbia’s Human Rights Institute, the U.S. government, and other positions, I have had the opportunity to support human rights implementation in diverse legal systems. I have long admired the work of the Human Rights Committee, and I hope to lend my comparative human rights expertise to further its important mission.”*

—Sarah H. Cleveland

International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights ▪ بالحقوق المدنية و السياسية  
Международный пакт о гражданских и политических правах ▪ 公民权利和政治  
Pacto Internacional de Derechos Civiles y Políticos ▪ International Covenant  
Pacte International relatif aux Droits Civils et Politiques ▪ Международный  
Internationaler Pakt über bürgerliche und politische Rechte ▪ Pacto Internacional